

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the Office Action of July 11, 2005, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 4, 6—8, 12—14, 18 and 19 remain pending in the application. No amendments to the claims are made in this response.

Claims 4, 6—8, 12—14, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,970,475) in view of Yang (US 2002/0120550 A1). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the combined teachings of Barnes et al. and Yang fail to show all the limitations of independent claims 18 and 19.

A careful review of Yang, especially paragraph 22, claim 5, Fig. 2 and paragraphs 32—39 show no teaching of analyzing the collected information to determine if any of the quotes are at prices more favorable than a previously negotiated price (claim 18) or a computer based market center being operative to analyze transactions to determine if any involve purchases at prices more advantageous than supplier prices for the goods or services stored in the system's database (claim 19).

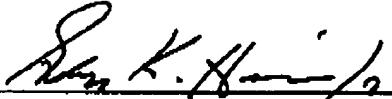
Yang is concerned with real time negotiation of a price and is silent as to analyzing transactions relative to previously negotiated prices. Yang's analysis system concerns reports covering which types of products are well sold, which types of products have larger gross profit and the whole enterprise profit (see page 5, paragraph 0079). Yang discloses nothing suggesting determining whether previous quotes are now being undercut by current transactions.

Claim 18, its dependent claims 4, 6—8 and 12—18, and claim 19 are therefore

believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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